

**DELTA COUNTY, COLORADO****BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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NOV 28 1997

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November 24, 1997

Mr. William Kennard
Chairman Designate
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

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Ex Parte Letter Re: Cases WT 97-197, MM Docket 97-182, and DA 96-2140

Dear Chairman Kennard:

The purpose of this letter is to express to the Federal Communications Commission, with copies to our Congressional Representatives, the serious concerns that we as a local governing body have with respect to recent rulings that have been issued in the above cases. It would appear that the Federal Communications Commission may be attempting to assume the responsibilities of this Board with respect to local zoning and land use. Although there are certain matters which the federal government may have an interest in locally, this Board has been given authority to regulate land use within the unincorporated areas in this county. Because of our familiarity with the area and our contact with local constituents, we are in the best position to make decisions of local interest. For those issues which are considered to be of greater than local interest, of course, we welcome the input of federal and state authorities, and we obviously concede that other authorities have the right to make decisions in some matters.

Delta County has not adopted a county-wide zoning code, though portions of Delta County are zoned. We do have some subdivision and land use regulations in place and are in the continuing process of developing our land use code. Radio, TV and cellular towers are of prime interest in this community because of the rural setting and a principal goal of the Delta County Master Plan to preserve our agricultural lands. Although we are not "anti-growth," we are sensitive to the impacts which growth will have upon our existing economy and lifestyle.

The bottom line is that we want to maintain local control. To the extent that the Federal Communications Commission seeks to remove local control from the Board of County Commissioners within the unincorporated areas of Delta County and from the municipalities

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within their limits, we stongly protest. We also know that our constituents believe very strongly in local control and would not want the federal government having the right to rule in matters which so directly impact the lifestyle and economy of Delta County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF DELTA COUNTY, COLORADO

By:


Ted H. Hayden, Chairman

xc: Delta County Attorney
County Administrator
Mr. William F. Caton
Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20054

xc: [see attached]
BCC/caj